

HF Happenings 443

South African Radio League 1925 – 2010 Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union Region 1
Subscribe to HF Happenings via HF Happenings-
subscribe@yahoogroups.com

27 February, SARL Digital Contest
6 March, SARL Hamnet 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest
12 March, March Madness YL Sprint
19 and 20 March, SARL VHF and UHF Analogue / Digital Contest
30 March, SARL 80 m Club Contest, digital
Find the rules in the 2011 SARL Contest Manual



The Future Country of Southern Sudan

From: Bernie McClenny, W3UR bernie@dailydx.com

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Sudan

As reported widely in the world press, the results of the recent referendum on the future of the Southern Sudan region are now public, and with an overwhelming majority, the people have readied the way for another independent state. In addition, the current mother country, the Republic of Sudan, has agreed to honour the referendum results while the President of the United States has pledged US recognition of the new country in July 2011.

The current plan calls for that country to declare its independence on 9 July this year, likely to be followed by its well-prepared entry to world organizations, such as the United Nations. Several alternative names for the new republic are still under consideration - probably the name Sudan will not be part of the new republic's nomenclature.

With that scenario in mind, a working group has been established to enable Amateur Radio to enter the scene with a professional, supportive role in the context of introducing the new country to the world of Amateur Radio. It should be noted that this potential new country is emerging with a limited administrative structure, and the first Amateur Radio activation should - prior to the operation - be accompanied with a well-thought-out plan prepared in partnership with Southern Sudan's relevant authorities, such as telecommunications, security and education.

The group of Alex, 5Z4DZ/PA3DZN, Robert, S53R, and Martti, OH2BH, has organised such an effort in discussions with Southern Sudan's institutions and other related parties in the region.

Many of Southern Sudan's current institutions are represented in Nairobi, the home base of 5Z4DZ. Nairobi makes a practical hub for the project, facilitating the conduct of negotiations and travel to Juba, the region's future capital.

What have you done today for Amateur Radio to make you proud?





February 2011

12 & 13 - SARL National Field Day; CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest; Dutch PACC Contest

14 - Valentine's Day

19 & 20 - ARRL International DX CW Contest

25 to 27 - CQ 160-Metre SSB Contest

27 - SARL Digital Contest

26 & 27 - UBA DX CW Contest; North American RTTY QSO Party

March 2011

5 & 6 - ARRL International DX SSB

6 - DARC 10-Metre Digital

6 - SARL Hamnet 40 m Simulated Emergency Contest

8 - International Women's Day (not in South Africa)

11 & 12 - SARL Strategic Indaba, Gauteng

12 - March Madness YL Sprint

12 & 13 - RSGB Commonwealth Contest

13 - North American RTTY Sprint

14 - Commonwealth Day

17 - St Patrick's day

19 - Programming in Windows, Cape Town

19 & 20 - SARL VHF and UHF Analogue / Digital Contest

19 to 21 - BARTG HF RTTY Contest

21 - Human Right's Day; Spring Equinox

22 - World Water Day

23 - World Meteorological Day

25 - Inland schools close

26 - SA AMSAT Symposium, Gauteng

26 & 27 - CQ WW WPX SSB Contest

30 - SARL 80 m Club Contest, digital

Robert, S53R and his team, with several well-known radio amateurs, are based in the region and maintain the telecommunications structure for UNWFP with related professional contacts. Their regional offices are in Southern Sudan with all needed facilities and equipment.

The plan is to use OH2BH's past work and material for the establishment of Amateur Radio in evolving societies as a foundation for assisting the newborn nation to draft and utilize Amateur Radio to its full potential in a professional setting when Southern Sudan joins the international family of nations.

As public interest in Southern Sudan will run high over the next several months, this group has invited Bernie, W3UR, to be its spokesman in dealings with the Amateur Radio community. The group will also be holding discussions about the provision of potential help to Southern Sudan's prospective Amateur Radio Service with several entities, such as NCDXF, in addition to obtaining resources from Japan.

The group wants to encourage the DX community to closely follow the rather complicated process unfolding around the emerging new nation, and hopes for a peaceful continuation of the process as the official referendum results are announced, leading up to the ultimate declaration of independence by the new country.

Updates will be released from time to time between now and July, and it is predicted that prospects for a new DXCC counter are some months away with preparations well underway.

SARL National Field Day

Logs for the National Field Day must be submitted by Monday 21 February to the Bloemfontein RAC by e-mail to zs4bfn@netactive.co.za or standard mail to PO Box 12104, Brandhof, 9324.

Send a photograph or two of your Field Station with your log submission, it may make the cover of Radio ZS!! Just check the size please!

Digimode Activity in the 40 M CW Segment

At WRC03, the ITU allocated frequency segment 7100 - 7200 kHz to the Amateur Service in Region 1. This extension of the 40 m band allowed IARU Region 1 to modify Region 1 band plan. These changes in the IARU Region 1 band plan have become effective on





29 March 2009. Some of these changes include the exclusive CW segment was extended by 5 kHz, and is now 7000 - 7040 kHz; the segment for Narrow Band Modes (Digimodes) with a maximum bandwidth of 500 Hz was extended by 5 kHz (doubled) and moved to 7040 - 7050 kHz and the segment for All Modes (Digimodes) with a maximum bandwidth of 2700 Hz was extended by 7 kHz and moved to 7050 - 7060 kHz.

Although the separation of the segments is by frequencies which is easy to remember (7040, 7050, 7060 kHz), there is still a lot of PSK31 activity around 7037 kHz. Radio amateurs are requested to adhere to the guidelines as stipulated in the IARU Region 1 HF Band Plan.

Crystal Sets To Sideband book now on the web

The Four State QRP Group is very pleased to provide the latest version of the book 'Crystal Sets to Sideband' by Frank W. Harris, KØIYE.

This book has become an icon within the QRP community as an excellent treatise on the home brewing science/art. The files are available for download on the Four State QRP Group's web site with Frank's permission.

When Version 1 was released in 2002, Mr. Harris donated his work to amateur radio. He provided Version 12 pdf files to Four State on 21 January 2011, the files are free and can be downloaded here <http://www.4sqr.com/index.php>. Click on the links to download and save each chapter.

Frank is a retired engineer and an excellent author. His easy to read style makes this not only a fine and informative reference book, but also a very pleasant reading experience. Enjoy this great book with our best wishes, it's a FB read.

CQ Press Release

Richard Moseson, W2VU, Editor of CQ Amateur Radio, sent out the following press release on 8 February, George Tranos, N2GA, Named CQ Magazine Contesting Editor - George Tranos, N2GA, of Long Island, New York, has been named Contesting Editor of CQ Amateur Radio magazine, Editor Rich Moseson, W2VU, announced today. Tranos succeeds John Dorr, K1AR, who stepped down after writing the magazine's contesting column for nearly 22 years.

Tranos has two decades of contesting experience in a variety of station settings, and has several top scores to his credit, both as a single operator and as part of contesting teams. He has operated extensively from the Caribbean as well as from his home station in New York, and has been a referee at three World Radio Teamsport Championship competitions, in 2000, 2006 and 2010.

George is a member of the Yankee Clipper Contest Club and the New York-based Order of Boiled Owls contest club. He is also a former ARRL Section Manager and past Chairman of Ham Radio University, a day of amateur radio seminars and fellowship on Long Island.

Professionally, Tranos is president of a software and management consulting firm, vice president of a school for professional motorcycle riders, and a freelance journalist. He is married to Diane Ortiz, K2DO, an accomplished contester herself and a former columnist for CQ Contest magazine, which was published in the 1990s.

CQ Editor Rich Moseson said, 'I am confident that George will uphold the high standards for this column established by K1AR and will bring his to it his own perspective. I look forward to working with him over the coming years.'

'I am honoured to have been asked to contribute to CQ magazine,' said Tranos. 'The contesting column is always the first thing I read. I hope to be able to keep up the great standards and traditions that compel me and many others to look forward to each issue.'

George's first column will appear in the March 2011 issue of CQ.





Log Checking Tool

CQ WPX Director, Randy K5ZD, continues innovating like that giant sunspot firing off solar flares. "I am pleased to announce a new tool <http://www.cqwpw.com/logcheck/> to help everyone format their logs correctly for the WPX Contest. The Cabrillo Log Check page will check the format of your Cabrillo log file for any mode of the CQ WPX Contest. Use this to check your log before submitting it to the robot." The new page by Tzetzto, LZ2FQ, supports CQ WPX RTTY, SSB and CW in Cabrillo 2 or 3 formats.

Word to the Wise

"Temporary" adj. - used by a amateur radio operator in obtaining permission to erect antennas and meaning "until I die."

African DX

Senegal, 6W. Dave, WJ2O (www.wj2o.com) will be active as 6W/WJ2O from Senegal on 17 to 23 February, including a SOAB entry in the ARRL DX CW Contest. Outside the contest, he will operate CW mainly on 30, 17 and 12 metres. QSL via WJ2O.

Uganda, 5X. Nick, G3RWF, will once again be active as 5X1NH from Fort Portal in western Uganda, and will be there between 19 February and 4 April. Usually he is there to do voluntary work, so his activity is usually outside the work hours. He prefers to operate CW but plans to also be on the Digital modes with some SSB. Activity will be on all bands except 160 m (no room for an antenna) and 6 metres is not licensed. He mentions that he will be taking a linear (thanks to G3PJT) and hopes to make a better effort on 80 meters. His rig is a K3. QSL via his home call sign and LoTW.

Namibia, V5. Gert, ZS6AYU, will be active as V5/ZS6AYU from various locations between 6 and 16 March. Activity will be holiday style on 30 - 15 metres CW only (usually late afternoon and/or early morning). QSL via ZS6AYU direct only. Last Update: Gert's schedule is as follows 6 and 7 March QTH Aus; 8 and 9 March - QTH Sesriem; 10 to 12 March - QTH Swakopmund and 13 to 16 March - QTH Okaukuejo near Etosha.

Nambia, V5. Klaus, DJ4SO, will be active as V5/DJ4SO from the farm southeast of Windhoek (same as last year) between 22 February and 23 March 2011. Klaus will be on 160 - 10 metres using mostly CW and RTTY/PSK31, with some possible SSB. QSL via home call, direct or bureau (e-mail request to Klaus@dj4so.de). Logs will be uploaded to LoTW. No eQSL.

African Islands on the Air

Canary Islands, EA8. Look for special event station EG8ISS to be on the air between 12 February and 11 March, from Las Palmas, Gran Canaria (AF-004, DIE S-005, WLOTA L 0969). Activity is to celebrate/publicise the first ARISS (International Space Station) contact with one of the "Institute for Technological Development and Innovation in Communications" (IDeTIC) facilities on campus. The special event station will be on the HF bands, 40 - 10 metres, using CW, SSB, RTTY, PSK31 and SSTV. In addition, activities are planned for VHF (2 m FM local and R7 repeater) and the satellites (AO-27, SO-50, AO-51 and VO-52). There is a special QSL card de-





signed for this event that will be automatically mailed to your QRZ.com address. Please, keep in mind that they are not highly skilled radio operators, so be patient if there are any pileups.

More info is available on the QRZ.com under EG8ISS. A Twitter page is also available at <http://twitter.com/eg8iss>

African Italy, AF-018. Operator Raffaele, IH9YMC, will be active from Pantelleria Island (IIA TP-001, MIA MI-124, WW Loc JM56xt), African Italy, during the CQ WW WPX SSB Contest (26 and 27 March) as a Single-Op/low-Power entry. QSL via eQSL.

African Italy, AF-019. Real Early Announcement. Operator Luigi, IK8HCG, will be active as I69R from Lampedusa Island, African Italy, during the next CQ WW DX SSB Contest (29 and 30 October). QSL via IK8HCG.

Contest Calendar

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 14 to 21 February 2011.

QRP Fox Hunt

02:00 - 03:30 UTC 16 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: Single Op (Fox/Hound)

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 17 February 2011

E-mail logs to: (see rules)

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

AGCW Semi-Automatic Key Evening

19:00 - 20:30 UTC 16 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 80m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST, serial no, "/" and 2-digit year first used a bug

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Bonus: Any participant having at least 10 QSOs can give a bonus of 5 points to another op for excellent usage of his bug

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 15 March 2011

E-mail logs to: [semiautomatic\[at\]agcw\[dot\]de](mailto:semiautomatic[at]agcw[dot]de)

Mail logs to: Manager:

Ulf-Dietmar Ernst, DK9KR, Elbstrasse 60, D-28199 Bremen, Germany

Find rules at:

http://www.agcw.org/en/?Contests:Semi_Automatic_Key_evening

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, Data

20:00 - 21:30 UTC 16 February

Mode: RTTY, PSK

Bands: 80 m Only

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RST and Serial No

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 23 February 2011

Upload log at:

<http://www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.rsqbcc.org/hf/rules/2011/r80mc.c.shtml>

QRP Fox Hunt

02:00 - 03:30 UTC 18 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 40 m Only





Classes: Single Op (Fox/Hound)
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country, name and power output
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points
Submit logs by: 03:30 UTC 19 February 2011
E-mail logs to: (see rules)
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.qrpfoxhunt.org/winter_rules.htm

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 18 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40 and 20 m
Classes: Single Op
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: (see rules)
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station
Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 20 February 2011
E-mail logs to: (none)
Post log summary at:
<http://www.hornucopia.com/3830score/>
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
<http://www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html>

Russian PSK WW Contest
21:00 UTC 18 February to 21:00 UTC 19 February
Mode: BPSK31, BPSK63, BPSK125
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band; Single Op Single Band; Multi-Op All Band
Max power: 100 watts
Exchange: RU: RST and 2-letter oblast; non-RU: RST and Serial No.

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country on 20, 15 and 10 m; 3 points per QSO with different country same continent on 20, 15 and 10 m; 5 points per QSO with different continent on 20, 15 and 10 m; 2 point per QSO with same country on 160, 80 and 40 m; 6 points per QSO with different country same continent on 160, 80 and 40 m; 10 points per QSO with different continent on 160, 80 and 40 m
Multipliers: Each country once per band; Each oblast once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 6 March 2011
E-mail logs to: contest[at]epc-ru[dot]ru
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
http://www.epc-ru.ru/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=562&Itemid=192

ARRL International DX CW Contest
00:00 UTC 19 February to 24:00 UTC 20 February
Mode: CW
Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m
Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, Low or High; Single Op Single Band; Single Op Assisted - Low or High; Multi-Single - Low or High; Multi-Two; Multi-Multi
Max power: HP: 1 500 watts; LP: 150 watts; QRP: 5 watts
Exchange: W/VE: RST and state or province; non-W/VE: RST and power
Work stations: Once per band
QSO Points: 3 points per QSO
Multipliers: W/VE: Each DXCC country once per band; Non-W/VE: Each state, District of Columbia, VE province/territory once per band
Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 21 March 2011
E-mail logs to: DXCW[at]arrl[dot]org
Mail logs to: ARRL Intl DX Contest, CW, ARRL, 225 Main St., Newington, CT 06111, USA
Find rules at: <http://www.arrl.org/arrl-dx>





Feld Hell Sprint

20:00 - 22:00 UTC 19 February

Mode: Feld Hell

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: Standard: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 1 March 2011

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests>

AWA Amplitude Modulation QSO Party

23:00 UTC 19 February to 23:00 UTC 20 February

Mode: AM

Bands: 80, 40 and 20 m

Classes: (none)

Exchange: RS

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO; 20 points per QSO with W2AN or W1HRX

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 20 March 2011

E-mail logs to:

bisha[at]rochester[dot]rr[dot]com

Mail logs to: Lynn Bisha, W2BSN, 83 Parkwood Lane, Penfield, NY 14526-1307, USA

Find rules at:

http://www.antiquewireless.org/pdf/2011am_rules.pdf

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

02:00 - 04:00 UTC 21 February

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 and 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province or country and member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-member; 3 points per QSO with member on same continent; 5 points per QSO with member on different continent

Multipliers: Each state, province or country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50 members worked

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 27 February 2011

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at:

<http://www.fpgrp.com/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.fpgrp.com/fpgrpun.php>

Next Week's Contests

SKCC Sprint, 00:00 - 02:00 UTC 23 February

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 23 February

RSGB 80 m CW Club Championship, 20:00 - 21:30 UTC 24 February

QRP Fox Hunt, 02:00 - 03:30 UTC 25 February

NCCC Sprint Ladder, 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 25 February

CQ 160-Meter SSB Contest, 22:00 UTC 25 February to 21:59 UTC 27 February

REF SSB Contest, 06:00 UTC 26 February to 18:00 UTC 27 February

UBA CW DX Contest, 13:00 UTC 26 February to 13:00 UTC 27 February

Mississippi QSO Party, 15:00 UTC 26 February to 03:00 UTC 27 February

North American RTTY QSO Party, 18:00 UTC 26 February to 06:00 UTC 27 February





North Carolina QSO Party, 17:00 UTC 27 February to 03:00 UTC 28 February
CQC Winter QSO Sprint, 01:00 - 02:59 UTC 28 February

History This Week

A look back at events that made history this week - compiled by the Summerland Amateur Radio Club of Lismore, NSW and Dennis, ZS4BS. The week starting Monday 14 February 2011.

1743 - The Political Council at the Cape of Good Hope decides that more churches must be established in the area as most of the population stay at least 3-day journey away from the church.

1858 - The House of Assembly accepts the Constitution, Flag and Coat of Arms of the Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek

1876 - Elisha Grey transmitted music over a telephone line

1876 - Submarine cable connects New South Wales to New Zealand

1878 - Edison patents his Phonograph

1880 - Pres Paul Kruger received the Order of the Netherlands Lion, awarded to citizens for service to the country

1893 - Tesla describes his wireless radiation system

1900 - Gen Piet Cronje and about 4 000 men are surrounded on the farm Wolwekraal near Paardeberg on the Modder River. For 10 days they held out against 120 canon and 33 000 British soldiers. Gen Cronje, 46 officers and 3 873 men surrendered.

1908 - De Forest patents his Audion triode valve

1917 - Australian cavalry capture Jericho, in Jordan, in WW1

1922 - Marconi begins regular broadcasting transmissions from Essex

1928 - Avro Avian: First solo flight from England to Australia by Bert Hinkler

1945 - British soldiers reach the river Rhine.

1972 - The 15th millionth Volkswagen is sold

1974 - Israeli and Syrian forces clash on the Golan Heights

Since the Universe now seems to be more than 250 times bigger than observable, radio amateurs everywhere know the answer - we need bigger antennas!

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newslines, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News, Southgate ARC and Pete's DX Newsdesk.

Newsletter editors are most welcome to use material from HF Happenings, just remember to acknowledge the source (which could be any one of the names mentioned above). HF Happenings can be provided in MS Word format.

SARL Digital Contest

1. Aim. To establish as many contacts as possible between radio amateurs in Southern Africa using the PSK31 / RTTY mode. The contest is open to all radio amateurs in Southern Africa (General Rules 1.b)

2. Date and Time

Last Sunday in February - 27 February 2011

Last Sunday in May - 29 May 2011

What have you done today for Amateur Radio to make you proud?





Third Sunday in August - 21 August 2011
Last Sunday in November - 27 November 2011

13:00 UTC to 16:00 UTC [15:00 to 18:00 CAT]

3. Bands

80 metres [3 580 to 3 600 kHz]

40 metres [7 040 to 7 060 kHz]

20 metres [14 070 to 14 099 kHz]

PSK31 is preferred at the lower end of the specified frequencies. RTTY is preferred at the upper end of the specified frequencies. Please note that USB must be used at all times. Refer to (General Rules 16)

4. Contacts. A station may be contacted twice on each band once on RTTY, once on PSK31.

5. Exchange. Signal report plus a sequential serial number starting at 001

6. Points

Contacts with stations listed in (General Rules 1.b) are worth 3 points.

Contacts with stations NOT listed in (General Rules 1.b) are worth 1 point.

7. Multiplier. The first contact with each area listed below will be used as a band multiplier.

Area 1: ZS1; Area 2: ZS2; Area 3: ZS3; Area 4: ZS4; Area 5: ZS5; Area 6: ZS6; Area 7: 3DA, 7P, 7Q, 9J, C9, A2, D2, V5, Z2, ZD7, ZD9, ZS7, ZS8, FR, 3B8, 5R, FH and D6; Area 8: Stations in the rest of the world.

8. Scoring. Band total = QSO points x number of call areas worked per band. The final score = sum of the band totals.

9. Sponsor. Logs shall be submitted within 7 days after the contest and can be sent by mail to The West Rand Amateur Radio Club, PO Box 5344, Weltevredenpark, 1725 or by e-mail to contest@sarl.org.za

